

Merriwether Middle

P.O.Box 7010

North Augusta, South Carolina 29861

Grades 6-8 Middle School

Enrollment 423 Students

Principal Virginia W. Culbertson

803-279-2511

Superintendent Dr. Sharon W. Keesley

803-275-4601

Board Chair Sallie Cooks

803-663-6539

The State of South Carolina

Annual School
Report Card

2005

ABSOLUTE RATING

GOOD

Absolute Ratings of Middle Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent

Good

Average

Below Average

Unsatisfactory

0

17

25

0

0

IMPROVEMENT RATING

BELOW AVERAGE

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

NO

This school met 18 out of 21 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups.

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2002	Good	Below Average	N/A
2003	Good	Below Average	No
2004	Good	Good	Yes
2005	Good	Below Average	No

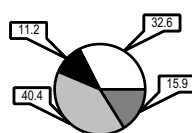
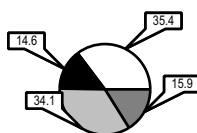
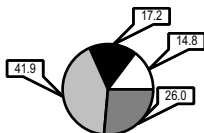
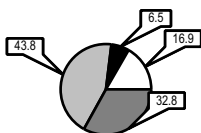
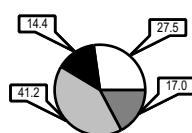
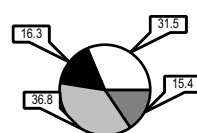
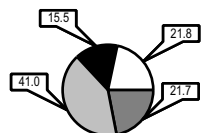
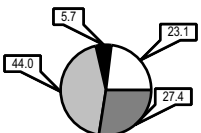
DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

PERCENT OF STUDENT RECORDS MATCHED FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING IMPROVEMENT RATING

Percent of students tested in 2004–05 whose 2003–04 test scores were located.

95.0%

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT)**English/Language Arts****Mathematics****Science****Social Studies****Our School****Middle Schools with Students like Ours****Definition of Critical Terms**

	Advanced	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	Proficient	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	Basic	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	Below Basic	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)</i>	<i>Performance Objective Met</i>	<i>Participation Objective Met</i>
English/Language Arts – State Performance Objective = 38.2%									
All Students	394	99.2	16.5	44.0	33.0	6.5	51.6	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	200	99.0	21.8	46.1	29.0	3.1	42.5		
Female	194	99.5	11.1	41.8	37.0	10.1	60.8		
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	293	99.7	12.9	43.0	37.4	6.6	56.6	Yes	Yes
African American	95	99.0	26.4	48.4	19.8	5.5	36.3	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	5	80.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	330	99.4	10.9	44.7	36.6	7.8	58.4		
Disabled	64	98.4	46.7	40.0	13.3	0.0	15.0	No	Yes
Migrant Status									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Non-Migrant	394	99.2	16.5	44.0	33.0	6.5	51.6		
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	1	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	393	99.5	16.5	44.0	33.0	6.5	51.6		
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	145	97.9	23.3	51.1	22.6	3.0	36.8	No	Yes
Full-pay meals	249	100.0	12.9	40.2	38.6	8.4	59.4		

Mathematics – State Performance Objective = 36.7%									
All Students	394	99.5	14.4	42.1	26.2	17.3	58.9	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	200	99.5	16.6	42.0	27.5	14.0	58.0		
Female	194	99.5	12.2	42.3	24.9	20.6	59.8		
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	293	99.7	14.0	38.1	28.3	19.6	62.6	Yes	Yes
African American	95	99.0	15.4	54.9	19.8	9.9	47.3	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	5	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	330	99.7	10.2	40.7	28.9	20.2	66.1		
Disabled	64	98.4	36.7	50.0	11.7	1.7	20.0	No	Yes
Migrant Status									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Non-Migrant	394	99.5	14.4	42.1	26.2	17.3	58.9		
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	1	100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	393	99.5	14.4	42.1	26.2	17.3	58.9		
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	145	98.6	21.8	48.9	21.1	8.3	44.4	Yes	Yes
Full-pay meals	249	100.0	10.4	38.6	28.9	22.1	66.7		

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable **N/AV** Not Available **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced</i>
Science							
All Students	394	99.2	35.1	34.3	16.0	14.7	30.6
Gender							
Male	200	99.0	34.7	35.2	15.0	15.0	30.1
Female	194	99.5	35.4	33.3	16.9	14.3	31.2
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	293	99.7	31.5	34.3	17.1	17.1	34.3
African American	95	99.0	46.2	35.2	12.1	6.6	18.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	5	80.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disability Status							
Not Disabled	330	99.4	29.8	35.7	18.0	16.5	34.5
Disabled	64	98.4	63.3	26.7	5.0	5.0	10.0
Migrant Status							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	394	99.2	35.1	34.3	16.0	14.7	30.6
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	1	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Limited English Proficient	393	99.5	35.1	34.3	16.0	14.7	30.6
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	145	97.9	45.1	36.1	12.8	6.0	18.8
Full-pay meals	249	100.0	29.7	33.3	17.7	19.3	36.9

Social Studies							
All Students	394	99.2	32.2	40.6	16.0	11.3	27.2
Gender							
Male	200	99.0	35.8	35.2	16.1	13.0	29.0
Female	194	99.5	28.6	46.0	15.9	9.5	25.4
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	293	99.7	28.3	40.9	17.1	13.6	30.8
African American	95	99.0	42.9	41.8	12.1	3.3	15.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	5	80.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disability Status							
Not Disabled	330	99.4	26.7	43.2	17.7	12.4	30.1
Disabled	64	98.4	61.7	26.7	6.7	5.0	11.7
Migrant Status							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	394	99.2	32.2	40.6	16.0	11.3	27.2
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	1	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Limited English Proficient	393	99.5	32.2	40.6	16.0	11.3	27.2
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	145	97.9	45.1	39.1	10.5	5.3	15.8
Full-pay meals	249	100.0	25.3	41.4	18.9	14.5	33.3

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable **N/AV** Not Available **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL

	Grade	Enrollment 1 st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced
English/Language Arts								
2004	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	158	100.0	21.2	44.2	30.1	4.5	34.6
	7	128	100.0	11.2	51.2	36.0	1.6	37.6
	8	98	100.0	10.4	54.2	29.2	6.3	35.4
2005	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	137	99.3	24.2	38.6	32.6	4.5	37.1
	7	137	99.3	12.2	58.0	26.7	3.1	29.8
	8	120	99.2	12.6	34.5	40.3	12.6	52.9
Mathematics								
2004	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	158	100.0	13.5	42.3	26.3	17.9	44.2
	7	128	100.0	12.8	36.8	28.8	21.6	50.4
	8	98	100.0	19.8	59.4	13.5	7.3	20.8
2005	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	137	99.3	13.6	43.2	28.0	15.2	43.2
	7	137	100.0	14.5	35.9	24.4	25.2	49.6
	8	120	99.2	15.1	47.9	26.1	10.9	37.0
Science								
2004	3							
	4							
	5							
	6							
	7							
	8							
2005	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	137	99.3	40.9	31.8	16.7	10.6	27.3
	7	137	99.3	36.6	32.8	13.7	16.8	30.5
	8	120	99.2	26.9	38.7	17.6	16.8	34.5
Social Studies								
2004	3							
	4							
	5							
	6							
	7							
	8							
2005	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	137	99.3	43.9	40.9	9.1	6.1	15.2
	7	137	99.3	37.4	42.7	16.0	3.8	19.8
	8	120	99.2	13.4	37.8	23.5	25.2	48.7

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable **N/AV** Not Available **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n= 423)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	44.2%	Up from 42.7%	18.9%	15.5%
Retention rate	5.6%	No change	2.4%	3.0%
Attendance rate	95.9%	Down from 96.4%	96.0%	95.8%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	3.6%	Up from 2.9%	3.6%	4.7%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (Math) off grade level	5.6%	Up from 3.9%	3.5%	4.6%
Eligible for gifted and talented	30.3%	Down from 31.5%	23.6%	15.3%
On academic plans	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
On academic probation	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	13.9%	Up from 11.3%	12.6%	13.6%
Older than usual for grade	8.0%	Up from 4.6%	2.8%	4.6%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	4.5%	Up from 0.5%	0.9%	0.8%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n= 25)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	56.0%	Up from 45.8%	53.7%	51.8%
Continuing contract teachers	84.0%	Down from 91.7%	80.4%	78.1%
Highly qualified teachers	95.5%	Up from 92.9%	90.5%	89.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	4.3%	Down from 4.5%	4.5%	6.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	90.4%	Up from 84.5%	87.0%	85.4%
Teacher attendance rate	92.7%	Down from 94.3%	95.2%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$39,635	Up 2.4%	\$42,160	\$41,328
Prof. development days/teacher	12.0 days	Up from 7.5 days	12.0 days	11.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	6.0	Up from 5.0	4.5	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.7 to 1	Down from 20.1 to 1	22.7 to 1	21.3 to 1
Prime instructional time	86.9%	Down from 90.0%	89.6%	89.3%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,730	Down 0.7%	\$5,609	\$6,022
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	58.0%	Up from 57.3%	61.9%	61.7%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	Up from Good	Good	Good
Parents attending conferences	92.4%	Down from 98.0%	96.0%	96.1%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Excellent	Up from Good	Good	Good
* Prior year audited financial data are reported.				
	Our District		State	
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	93.3%		89.4%	
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	91.7%		90.1%	
	State Objective		Met State Objective	
Highly qualified teachers in this school	65.0%		Yes	
Student attendance in this school	95.3%		Yes	

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable **N/AV** Not Available **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Merriwether Middle School is located in rural Edgefield County. Our school serves approximately 400 students in 6th-8th grades from various ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. We are scheduled in teams to allow for a better transition from middle to high school and so that the teachers can integrate units of study and plan for students' success. Every student attends five academic classes and two exploratory classes each day. Language arts and reading classes are blocked for teachers to correlate speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities. Exploratory classes include art, chorus, band, computer-assisted learning lab, physical education, keyboarding, broadcasting, technology, and reading and math enrichment. Students are able to participate in School-to-Work activities and several kinds of sports. Each eighth grade student is offered courses for high school credit. Courses offered are Algebra I, English I, Keyboarding, and Band. Students are rewarded for academic achievement and character development via Awards Days, Gold Cards, Student of the Month activities, Honor Roll field trips, and team rewards.

Merriwether Middle School's motto is "We can't hide that Mustang pride." We are proud of our accomplishments. We received Incentive Award recognition several years and this year were awarded the coveted Silver Award for our PACT scores. Each year we have a number of students qualify to take the PSAT and have had a number of Junior Scholars throughout the years. Last year we had 14 Junior Scholars, and this year we had 17, a phenomenal number for a school our size. Each year we participate in competitions, such as: MathCounts, Lt. Gov.'s Writing Award, CSRA Science Fair, Eco Meet Challenge, and various writing contests. We have fared quite well. This year our MathCounts team came in third in the region. We had first and second place winners in several events in the CSRA Science Fair. Our Eco Meet team came in first place overall. We had a student selected as 2nd place in the S.C. Wildlife Magazine Young Writers' Contest.

Our school is accredited with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Two of our teachers have National Board Certification, and we are actively working on having all of our teachers meet Highly Qualified status. We have an active School Improvement Council and very involved PTO. We have been described as "one of South Carolina schools' best kept secrets."

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	19	109	26
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	78.9%	88.5%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	94.7%	75.9%	88.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	84.2%	87.7%	76.9%

*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.